RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT FACT SHEET

MISSION STATEMENT:

"Our Mission is to provide our customers reliable, high-quality water and sewer service at the most efficient cost."

ACTION TO MEET LOCAL WATER NEEDS

Rainbow Municipal Water District (RMWD) lies 60 miles north of the City of San Diego and 75 miles south of Los Angeles in the northwestern portion of San Diego County. It encompasses the unincorporated communities of Rainbow, Bonsall, and a portion of Fallbrook, covering approximately 49,800 acres of land. The District straddles, in part, Interstate 15 and the San Luis Rey River. The area has many agricultural uses, including citrus, avocados, strawberries, tomatoes, corn, commercial nurseries and livestock. The terrain is rugged and mountainous, consisting predominantly of developed groves, with some residential areas interspersed in the more accessible valleys. RMWD is largely agricultural; however, it is expected to see significant growth in its residential customer base in the future. Much of the area still remains in its natural state of chaparral, oak and coastal sage vegetation, characteristic of Mediterranean west coast climatic regions.

RMWD is at the end of a vast and expensive water delivery system that stretches hundreds of miles. This system takes water from where it is more plentiful in the Rocky Mountains and Northern California, and brings that water to Southern California through a series of aqueducts, serving over 7,200 meters to portions of Fallbrook, Pala and Bonsall.

Water from the Rocky Mountains is diverted from the Colorado River and transported 241 miles to San Diego County through the Colorado River Aqueduct. On an average, approximately 75% of the water imported into San Diego County arrives from the Colorado River. Water from Northern California is diverted from the Sacramento River Delta and brought 444 miles to San Diego County through the California Aqueduct.

Both sources of water end up in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's treatment facility where they are blended and treated at the Robert A. Skinner Filtration Plant located south of Hemet in Riverside County. The water is then available for purchase by the San Diego County Water Authority and is distributed to its member agencies, of which RMWD is one. One of the District's main priorities is to pursue alternate water sources.

GOVERNING BODY

RMWD is a special district, formed in December 1953, authorized by the State Legislature under the Municipal Water District Act of 1911. It is governed by a five-member Board of Directors selected by voters in their respective divisions to serve four-year terms. The Board meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the District's Board Room located at 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA and the public is invited to attend these meetings. Agendas for Board of Directors meetings are posted for public viewing at the Administration building site and are on the District's website (www.rainbowmwd.com).

DISTRICT'S FACILITIES

Under the ongoing guidance of its Board of Directors, the District has responded to changes within its service area. To meet the water needs of its 7,800 customers throughout its 78 square mile area (49,800 acres), the District has constructed a water system that today consists of:

Reservoirs: 4 - Open 2 / Covered 2
Tanks: 12
Water Lines: 318 miles
Number of Pumps: 14

Water Storage Capacity: 1,316 acre feet
Pump Stations: 7
Sewer Lift Stations: 6
Chlorine Stations: 6
Aqueduct Connections: 8

Emergency Water Storage – 425 million gallons 1,316 acre feet
Total Pump Capacity: 2,775 horsepower

WASTEWATER SERVICE/RECLAMATION

In addition to water supply, the District provides wastewater treatment and reclamation service for approximately 2,150 customers through its 6 facilities.

LOOKING AHEAD

It is the legal responsibility of the water district to plan for and meet the water and wastewater needs of the lands within its boundaries. RMWD assesses future service requirements based on land use decisions vested with general-purpose municipal and county governments. Over the coming years, the District will be identifying, evaluating and pursuing projects to enhance water service quality and system reliability. It is anticipated there will be significant investment in replacing and/or upgrading existing distribution pipelines.

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS & PRACTICES

Water - More precious than gold - too valuable to waste. Our enviable Southern California lifestyle and economy would not exist, as we know it today, if there was not a dependable supply of imported water. Considering that the District's water supply is 100% imported, we must use our limited supply wisely. Conservation programs available to our customers that can assist in the efficient use of water and thereby reduce water consumption include vouchers for high efficiency washing machines, a residential landscape survey and an Agricultural Water Management Survey Program.

Create a Custom Watering Schedule for your landscape using the Watering Index on the website, www.bewaterwise.com**.** The Watering Calculator gives a schedule for the maximum amount of water that your plants may need each week of the year. Irrigating of outdoor landscaping represents approximately 60% of residential water usage. By efficiently irrigating, we will conserve our region's water supply, protecting its long-term availability and maintain healthy plantings. Also, visit www.bewaterwise.com (The Garden Spot) to obtain information on "California's Friendly Gardening", including a searchable plant database to assist in the selection of water efficient plants that are appropriate for our area.

Following are effective conservation measures that can be incorporated into your daily routine:

- Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your feet, it doesn't need water. Water between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. when the sun is low, winds are calm and the temperatures are cool. (Saves 750 to 1,500 gallons a month)
- Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints. (Saves 20 gallons a day for every leak stopped)
- Don't run the hose while washing your car. Use a bucket of water and a quick hose rinse at the end. (Saves 150 gallons each time)
- Install water-saving showerheads or flow restrictors. (Saves 500 to 800 gallons a month)
- Run only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher. (Saves 300 to 800 gallons a month)
- Shorten your showers. (Even a one or two-minute reduction can save up to 700 gallons a month)
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. (Saves 150 gallons or more each time)
- Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. (Saves 400 to 600 gallons a month)
- Capture tap water. While you wait for hot water to come down the pipes, catch the flow in a watering can to use later on houseplants or your garden. (Saves 200 to 300 gallons a month)
- Don't water the sidewalks, driveway or gutter. Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn or garden, where it belongs. (Saves 500 gallons a month)

Other conservation ideas can be found on the Conservation page on our website.

WATER EQUIVALENTS TABLE		
1 cubic foot	**= 7.48 gallons**	**= 62.4 pounds of water**
100 cubic feet	**= 748 gallons**	**= one billing unit**
1 million gallons	**= 3.07 acre feet**	**= 1,337 units**
1 acre foot	**= 325,872 gallons**	**= Covers 1 acre of land, 1 foot deep**